PENSION FOR BURR

His Application Found in Musty Records.

Writing as Legible as If Only Month Old and Dated 1834, When the Revolutionary Veteran Was 78 Years Old.

Washington. — The application of Aaron Burr of revolutionary fame for a pension has been unearthed among the musty files of the pension bureau. Secretary Lane has dispatched it to the Smithsonian institution, suggesting that place as the proper depository for such an interesting document. The application is in an excellent state of preservation.

The writing is as legible as if written a month ago, and the paper is still intact. The signature of the applicant is modestly placed in the lower right-hand corner and read "A. Burr." There are four pages of the application, which is dated in 1834, and is closely written on both sides of legal size paper. Therein is set forth that Colonel Burr, the applicant, is seventy-eight years old, and that he enlisted in 1775 at the age of eighteen.

It is further recited that the applicant's first important expedition was with General Arnold on the campaign in Canada. At that time he was aid to General Montgomery, who was killed in the attack on Quebec. Young Burr's next assignment was as aid to General Arnold, who was in command of the invading army at that time. Later he was aid to General Putnam and "was present at the battles of Long Island and White Plains."

The papers also declare that Burr was made lieutenant colonel by General Washington; that his health became impaired and that he made several attempts to resign on that account, and his resignation was accepted conditionally and with protest by General Washington, but before it took effect Colonel Burr was persuaded to undertake the destruction of a British blockhouse on the Bronx river, which he accomplished most successfully, and was then persuaded to forego his intention to resign and continued in active service until 1781.

Among other papers in the file is a copy of a letter to Colonel Burr from George Washington, dated "Headquarters Frederick, 26 October, 1778." The substance of this letter is found in the following quotation:

"You in my opinion carry your ideas of delicacy too far, when you propose to drop your pay while the recovery of your health necessarily requires your absence from the service. It is not customary, and it would be unjust. You therefore have leave to retire until your health is so far re-established as to enable you to do your duty."

KILL 12,910,506 ANIMALS.

There were 12,910,506 animals slaughtered in the federally inspected establishments of Chicago under government inspection in 1912. These consisted of 1,664,613 cattle, 463,750 calves, 4,772,357 sheep, 15,273 goats and 5,994,513 hogs.

The total number of animals inspected in the 790 slaughtering and processing establishments under federal inspection in 226 cities and towns in 1912 was 57,628,491. This is an increase of nearly 5,000,000 over the figures for the fiscal year 1911.

Since 1911 the number of inspected establishments, including meat food factories, has increased from 919 to 940. Of the animals inspected in 1912 cattle numbered 7,245,585, calves, 2,277,954, sheep 14,979,354, goats 72,871 and hogs 33,052,727.

The total condemnations at the time of slaughter for disease or other cause numbered 232,687 whole carcasses and 494,328 parts of other carcasses, or a total of 727,015 condemnations. In addition, nearly 18,000,000 pounds of prepared meats and meat products were condemned on reinspection because they had become unwholesome subsequent to the first inspection.

Chicago, with 12,910,506 animals slaughtered under federal inspection by the department of agriculture, leads in numbers. The other principal points of federally inspected slaughter are in the following order: Kansas City, 5,646,161; South Omaha, 4,609,655; New York, 3,034,685; National stock yards (East St. Louis), 2,966,292; South St. Joseph, 2,671,443; Boston, 1,826,044; Indianapolis, 1,598,503; Sioux City 1,520,607; Buffalo, 1,381,271.

FLIES COST $157,800,000 A YEAR.

Figured out in money, to say nothing of the loss in human life, the cost to the United States annually of supporting its fly population amounts to $157,800,000, say government experts who have been making study of the results of the germ-spreading activities of those insects.

It is estimated that the fly is responsible for an expenditure of $50,000,000 for the handling of tuberculosis cases attributable to germs spread by the pests, while $70,000,000 represents the cost of typhoid fever cases originating in the same way.

As a carrier of intestinal fever and summer diseases, and a transporting agency of dysentery, the fly, scientists say, must be charged with an expenditure of $37,200,000 for the cure of these diseases.

Satisfactory results are reported in nearly every city where anti-fly campaigns are in progress. In Washington there has been a noticeable falling off in the size of the pest horde.

Methods of fighting the fly which have been followed in the national capital this summer are indorsed in a bulletin just issued from the office of the state entomologist of Minnesota.

The local plan was inaugurated with a clean-up campaign. Since then the method has consisted principally of bringing to the attention of citizens, by means of educational posters, letters and newspaper articles, suggestions for fly eradication that have been tried out with success in various cities.

GENIUS OFTEN A MENACE.

Children of exceptional mental brilliancy are even greater dangers to society than those defective or abnormally stupid. This is the conclusion of Dr. Maximilian P. E. Groszmann of the United States bureau of education in a report made public the other day. The educational expert based his statement on the comprehensive study made in the schools of the United States.

"It is often the exceptionally bright child, or even the genius, whom we find on the wrong side," said Dr. Groszmann. "The stupid and weak-minded criminal is not so dangerous as the clever and intellectual criminal."

As a remedy for the uplift of misguided juveniles the scientist advocates united effort on the part of educators, medical men, social workers, charity organizations, welfare societies, juvenile courts and other agencies. He declares in his report that all of the separate organizations are doing commendable work in this connection, but that joint action is necessary. He also advocates the passage of legislation giving the community the right to direct the educational training of every child.

"WOODROW THE COOL."

These be warm days in Washington, both meteorologically and politically. President Wilson has been in the thick of both kinds of warmth. Yet close observers declare that he has not yet perspired;

Has not been seen to mop his brow;
Has not wilted a collar;
Has not used a fan;
Has not complained of the heat;
Has not once said: "Whew, but it's hot;"
Has not started the air cooling plant under the offices.

All this in spite of the fact that he is the hardest worked man in the United States.

Blighting summer heat has fallen on the white house, but he has resolved to stay "on the job" all summer, to carry out the administration's reform policies.

His bedroom and his office are only a hundred feet apart, so that he is obliged to steal the time if he gets away for a bit of exercise, yet, even at that, he has established a white house record.

He has not even taken off his vest.

He turns on the electric fan in his office and goes on working and weighing 178 pounds without turning a hair.

And all perspiring Washington is wondering how he does it.

SCHOOL FOR CONGRESSMEN.

During the discussion of the tariff bill Representative J. Hampton Moore, a Pennsylvania Republican, delivered his "piece" in the shape of what he called a "tariff primer." He had the clerk read questions and he answered them, incidentally roasting the Underwood measure.

While "Hamy," as Mr. Moore is called by his intimates, was getting along swimmingly with his primer lesson, Congressman Lobeck of Nebraska did his best to make the scene as educational as possible. Mr. Lobeck raised his right hand and frantically waved it in circles.

"For what purpose does the gentleman from Nebraska rise?" asked the presiding officer.

"Please, teacher, may I go out?" was the response, while the house shook its sides laughing.

GODDESS GETS BATH.

The "Goddess of Freedom," the dame on top of the capitol, has received her triennial bath.

For the bathing and painting of the goddess and her approaches and foundations, congress appropriated $16,000. Charles MacNichol, who has twice before washed and painted the great metal figure on the capitol, had the job. It required 240,000 gallons of paint to give back to the goddess of freedom her original color. It took the time of many men several weeks to touch the lady up properly.

Easy Way to Kill Moles.

An excellent way to exterminate moles is as follows: Prepare a small can of calcium carbide, which can be purchased from an automobile or bicycle dealer, open the hole where the mole has been digging and place some of the carbide in it.

Pour two or three gallons of water into the hole and close up the opening. In about 15 or 20 minutes open the hole and immediately ignite the gas formed.

Be careful in lighting the gas. A gas lighter or a match placed in the end of a long stick should be used.

The gas will burn for a few seconds and then it will back-fire in the hole. There will be no more trouble from the mole.—Popular Mechanics.

Not to Be Surprised.

"Dibbs is what I would call a practical optimist."

"How is that?"

"He hopes for the best, but is prepared for the worst."

HALF HOLIDAY OLD

Ancient Workmen Never Labored Saturday Afternoons.

Medieval Man, Like Moslem of East, Took Bath in Order to Be Prepared for Worship on Sunday—Legalized in Some States.

The Saturday half holiday is customarily regarded as a modern innovation. Ask any old person and he will tell you that he can remember when all laborers worked on the seventh day of the week just as on every other day—from the blowing of the whistle at seven o'clock in the morning until six o'clock, or later, in the evening. The shortening of the regular working day to eight hours, with freedom on Saturday afternoon, is attributed to the work of the trades unions. While the latter body, in the last few decades, certainly has influenced public opinion and legislation in regard to a shorter working day, it did not propound a new idea, but rather revived the old laws of the fifteenth century.

In the early days of industrial history parliament and the kings, both in England and on the continent, took a very active part in regulating the working hours as well as the wages of their subjects. By doing this, it was believed the king could protect his own interests, in addition to those of the people against unscrupulous employers.

An English statute, made by Henry IV. in the early part of the fifteenth century, fixed the legal hours of the country laborers from five o'clock in the morning until seven o'clock in the evening, from March until September; but, from September until the following March they were only to work from "the springing of the day until the night of the same day." They were always to have half an hour for breakfast and an hour and a half for dinner, with the privilege of a nap, from May until August, and were to work on Saturdays only until noon. Trading in the shops on Sundays and holidays was forbidden.

In medieval times the Saturday half holiday seems to have been almost universal. "Every one must be pleased with his work," says a Kutenberg ordinance, "consequently no one must be overworked." Even Ferdinand I. (1458-94), one of the most ferocious kings who ever sat on the throne of the holy Roman empire, accepted this maxim and ruled that, in the imperial mines, the miners were to work only eight hours a day. The old law also explicitly stated that work after Saturday at noon was to be strictly prohibited and that "a pair of stocks be in every town" that employers who worked their people overtime might be thrust into them. Because there was a Saturday half holiday, however, it must not be thought that this afternoon was given for recreation. Indeed not—it was bathing time for the greater part of the community.

Most barbarians, judged by modern standards, were anything but cleanly in their personal habits. In England, France and Germany bathing was an almost unknown custom until after the crusades. The pilgrims from the east brought home with them ideas of the bath as help in the treatment of disease, and bathrooms were gradually introduced into the hospitals. From the hospitals the idea of bathing spread generally. People who had been treated there saw the value of keeping the body clean in order to resist disease.

By the fifteenth century there was scarcely a large city that did not possess well patronized public bathing establishments, although it was not until the seventeenth century that the Turkish bath was introduced, and not until the eighteenth century that sea bathing, so common among the American Indians, was tried experimentally.

Why Saturday was chosen as bathing time is not difficult to imagine. On Sunday everybody was compelled to go to church, whether he would or not. As the Moslem in the east bathed before entering the mosque, so did the medieval man before entering his church, only he must take his bath on Saturday afternoon in order to be clean the following day. There was even a distribution of bath money to the children whose parents were unable to pay for their baths.

With the introduction of machinery and the rise of a capitalistic class, the old common laws of the lands regarding labor came to be neglected. The craft guilds were abolished by law and their property confiscated. Combination of workmen in any form in England was prohibited until 1781, when it became legalized again. In England industrial conditions during the latter part of the eighteenth century became deplorable. Even the little children worked from five in the morning until nine at night. In these working days of 12, 15 and 18 hours, the Saturday half holiday was forgotten, only to be revived after many years had passed.

Certain states and cities have legislated in favor of a Saturday half holiday. This is true in New York, New Jersey, Pennsylvania, Maryland, Tennessee, Virginia, in the city of New Orleans and in New Castle county, Delaware.

Wife the Chairman.

Miss Watt—Do you belong to any debating society, Mr. Watkins?

Watkins—Well-er-a-small one. I am married.

HOW TO BE GENTLE

Vulgar Familiarity Never in Good Form.

Old Englishman's Advice and Warning Against Calling Men and Women by Christian Names on Short Acquaintance.

When our forefathers spoke of a man's "address" they meant his whole social bearing. Nor was it by mere freak or accident of language that the word thus exchanged a narrower for a wider significance. A man's way of accosting a stranger, or even an acquaintance, or even a friend, reveals a good deal of his character and goes a long way toward distinguishing a gentleman from a boor. "Good manners are easy and free, but a "free and easy" manner is an abomination. My attention, says a writer in the Manchester (England) Guardian, is invited to the subject by one of those young inquirers who writes as follows:

"I attached no particular importance to the questions until a few weeks ago . . . . And now I would ask what experience has taught you. Is one to call every Tom, Dick and Harry by his Christian name, or plain Brown, Jones and Robinson, prefixed with 'Mr.' according to age? Is one to call every Joan, Jane and Betsy by her Christian name, or merely Miss So-and-So?"

I must not indicate my correspondent by the name of the place in which he dwells, so for the nonce he shall be "Tom Fytton," named after a very attractive hero who suffered from rather similar embarrassments; and to my friend Tom I would at the outset impart a salutary warning which I received very early in life.

"When you once are on terms to call Christian names, you are on terms to quarrel." This somber truth, even if it stood alone, should be a deterrent from premature and needless intimacies. I fancy that Cowper, who had the double sensitiveness of the gentleman and the poet, must have been smarting from some experiences of this sort when he wrote his stanzas on Friendship:

The man who hails you Tom or Jack,
And proves by thumps upon your back
How he esteems your merit,
In such a friend that one had need
Be very much his friend indeed,
To pardon or to bear it.

And the odd thing is that the men who are thus offensively friendly always seem to imagine that they are making themselves extremely pleasant; they are too blind to see the annoyance which they cause and too thick headed to feel that their clumsiness is resented. Warned by their example, let Tom Fytton confine himself to surnames until he is really sure of his ground; and then, when acquaintance has led to intimacy, he will find that the Christian name slips in-easily and inevitably, into its place.

There is no greater error than to mistake vulgar familiarity for "gentlemanlike ease," but there is a familiarity which is not the least vulgar, and "gentlemanly" has no necessary connection with social rank. Some of the truest gentlemen I have ever known have been miners, and I have seen agricultural laborers whose manners no instruction could have mended.

Is Tom to call Joan, Jane and Betsy by their Christian names? No. I cannot say it too often or too plainly. To a man, every woman should be a divinity; and the slightest touch of familiarity or ffee and easiness is inconsistent with that reverence which should be his instinctive attitude. It is true that my favorite heroine, Die Vernon, encouraged Frank Osbaldiston to set convention at defiance. "Call me Tom Vernon, if you have a mind, but speak to me as you would a friend and companion." But then Die, with all her charms, was a bit of a hoiden, and had learnt her manners from her brutal cousins. Frank, who was a gentleman, as well as a good fellow, declined to take her at her word, and at their final parting (as it seemed) she was still to him "Miss Vernon."

If a forward or conceited youth presumes to be "free and easy" with what he will probably call a "gurl," he is likely to receive a snub which will abide with him, to his great advantage, all his life long. So direct familiarity is difficult and dangerous and the bounder generally has sense enough to avoid it. But he compensates himself indirectly by speaking of girls, behind their backs, by their Christian names, though he knows full well that he dare not so call them to their faces. There he shows himself a coward as well as a cad, and Tom Fytton will perhaps find an opportunity of telling him so.

New Use for Old Chairs.

Do not throw away your old chairs. By cutting them down you can make them useful for the front steps. Take a saw and cut off the back legs entirely, and then measure the depth of the step and cut off the front legs so that they will just reach the next lower step. In this way the chairs will fit on the steps, and the fact that they have back rests makes it a pleasure to sit on the steps summer evenings.

Grief and Remorse.

"No," said the stage manager, "you are the heroine. You are supposed to suffer more than anybody else in the play. You must put yourself into a frame of mind which represents grief and remorse."

"I know," replied the leading woman. "I'll try to make myself believe I'm one of the people who paid two dollars to see this play."